Forest Guest/Rest Houses

4938. SHRI K.V. SURENDRA NATH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT and FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been noticed that in the name of ecotourism forest guest/rest houses are being built in the heart of reserve forests in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken and proposed to be taken to restrict and regulate such constructions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (d) As reported by the State Government of Kerala no such buildings have been constructed in the name of eco-tourism in the heart of reserve forests in Kerala.

(c) Question does not arise.

Haldia Fertilizer Project

4939. SHRI JAYANTA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have made efforts to revive the Haldia Fertilizer Project;

(b) whether the Government have made nay assessment regarding the handing over this project to the Haldia Oil Refinery which will ensure its revival;

(c) if so, the status of the same; and

(d) if not, whether there is any proposal under consideration to do so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) Various alternatives were explored to revive the Haldia project of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFC). The revamp of the Haldia Project was not found to be techno-economically feasible. Since its revival/rehabilitation would have required setting up a new Ammonia/Urea plant of an economic size, the cost of which was estimated at Rs. 910 crore at 1994 price level, it was decided to attract private capital for its rehabilitation.

(b) to (d) The matter regarding take over of Haldia Fertilizer Project of HFC by IOC was examined by the Government in consultation with IOC. Since IOC does not have any interest in the field of fertilizers, it is not interested in taking over HFC's Haldia Fertilizer Plant. Since the existing/planned facilities within the premises of IOC's haldia Oil Refinery would be adequate even for the future expanded capacity of Haldia Refinery, IOC is not interested in taking over or utilising any of the facilities of Haldia Fertilizer Project.

[Translation]

Alleged Irregularities in CAEI, Bhopal

4940 SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware about the alleged irregularities committed in the recruitment in the Central Agricultural Engineering Institute, Bhopal and have asked the State Government to conduct an inquiry into the matter; and

(b) if so, the response of the State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is aware of the alleged irregularities committed in the recruitment at the CIAE, Bhopal. However, the State Government has not been asked to conduct any inquiry into the matter. The Director, C.I.A.E., Bhopal got the matter enquired through Vigilance Officer of the Institute.

(b) The question of response from the State Government does not arise. Action on complaint could not be taken as the matter was subjudiced. The CAT, Jabalpur upheld the decision of the Institute in its judgement dated 20.8.96 regarding employees who joined the Institute on deputation basis. However, the Institute has now initiated action on complaints regarding alleged irregularities committed in recruitment.

[English]

Renovation of Old Railway Bridge

4941. SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Railway Bridge near Nilayam at Secunderabad in Andhra Pradesh is too old, narrow and unable to meet heavy and ever growing traffic;

(b) if so, whether the Government propose to widen the said bridge to accommodate the traffic flow;

(c) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard;

(d) if so, the details of project cost, extent of widening/capacity, completion date etc. of the said job; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) The Road Under bridge needs widening.